

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, AREA E,
BUILDING 76, WRIGHT FIELD FIREHOUSE
DAYTON VIC.
GREENE COUNTY
OHIO

OH-79-AJ
HAER No. OH-79-AJ

HAER
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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, AREA B,
BUILDING 76, WRIGHT FIELD FIREHOUSE

HAER No. OH-79-AJ

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Location: On northwest corner of 5th and D Streets;
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Area B,
Dayton Vicinity, Greene County, Ohio.

Dates of Construction: 1929.
addition - 1943.

Present Owner: USAF.

Present Use: Area B Firehouse.

Significance: Building 76 was built in 1929 as the original
Wright Field firehouse. It has undergone
considerable alterations, but continues to
serve as the fire station for Area B.

Project History: This report is part of the overall Wright-
Patterson Air Force Base, Area B documentation
project conducted by HAER 1991-1993. See
overview report, HAER No. OH-79, for a
complete description of the project.

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DESCRIPTION: The Firehouse is a two-story, six-course American bond brick structure with a flat parapeted roof. The garage bays have overhead doors and are capped with soldier course lintels. Two rectangular brick pilasters span the height of the facade, while one pilaster is centered on each side of the building, marking the boundary between the original building and the 1943 addition. Corner pilasters adorn all four corners of the building. At the rear, extending above the building, is a small, one room tower-like structure with a pyramid roof and single window, which is used for hose drying. A plaque mounted on the pilaster between the two garage bays dedicates the building to Frank A. Smith, who lost his life during construction of the station.

HISTORY: Built in 1929 as the original Wright Field firehouse, Building 76 has undergone considerable alterations, but continues to serve as the fire station for Area B. Originally, the building consisted of a one-story section for office space, and a two-story section which included 4 garage bays with living space above. During World War II the fire station's space was more than doubled by extending the building back and adding a second story above the office space. After 1943, two of the garage bay pillars were removed to accommodate the larger vehicles being used for firefighting. The windows and exterior lights have since been modernized.

For bibliography, see Wright-Patterson Air Force Base overview report (HAER No. OH-79).